99TH CONGRESS
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT
99-14

PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

FEBRUARY 28, 1985.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

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Mr. WHEAT, from the Committee on Rules, submitted the following

REPORT

together with

SUPPLEMENTAL VIEWS

[To accompany H. Res. 25]

The Committee on Rules, having had under consideration House Resolution 25, reports the same to the House with the recommendation that the resolution do pass.

BACKGROUND AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

House Resolution 25 authorizes the establishment of a temporary Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families which would have no legislative jurisdiction. This resolution is identical to House Resolution 16 (98th Congress, House Report 98-1) adopted by the House on February 2, 1983 by a 312-69 vote. The authority granted by House Resolution 16 expired at the end of the 98th Congress. House Resolution 25 provides the mandate for creation of the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families for the 99th Congress.

The Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families was first authorized in the 97th Congress when House Resolution 421 (97th Congress, House Report 97-847) was adopted by the House by voice vote on September 29, 1982. However, because the authorizing resolution was adopted so late in the Congress, no Members were appointed to serve on the Select Committee and no funds were provided for its operation.

After the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families was reauthorized on February 2, 1983, the Speaker appointed twenty-five Members to serve on the Select Committee during the 98th Congress, including Representative George Miller of Califor-

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nia, who was appointed chairman. The Select Committee commenced operations in April, 1983.

During the 98th Congress the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families held twenty-five hearings (with more than three hundred witnesses), conducted eleven site visits, and issued five reports (see 98th Congress, House Report 98–1195, "Report on the Activities in the 98th Congress of the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families". The Select Committee also established task forces on prevention strategies, crisis intervention, and economic security.

Children and their families are the primary beneficiaries of many of the Federal social programs such as Title I fuel assistance, public housing, food stamps and AFDC. Children comprise over 70 percent of the AFDC beneficiaries and over 50 percent of the food stamp recipients. The current necessity of fiscal restraint has forced streamlining of some of these programs without an adequate comprehensive reevaluation of the Federal policies and their impact on this constituency. The Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families provides a valuable forum for public and private sector consideration of the programs and policies affecting children and their families and has already contributed to the comprehensive reevaluation of Federal policies that is needed to inform future legislative actions.

House Resolution 25 authorizes the Select Committee to study the use of all practicable means and methods of encouraging the development of public and private organizations and policies which will assist American children and youth in taking a full part in national life and becoming productive citizens. The Select Committee is authorized to conduct a continuing comprehensive study and review of problems of children, youth and families; including, but not limited to, income maintenance, health (including medical and child development health), nutrition, education, welfare, employment and recreation. The primary functions of the Select Committee are to provide the existing programs and policies affecting children and their families, and provide a comprehensive approach to addressing the problems of this constituency.

There is currently no single Federal or State agency or congressional committee which focuses on the diverse and complex problems of this vulnerable segment of our society. The resolution authorizes the Select Committee to develop policies that would encourage the coordination of both governmental and private programs designed to address the problems of childhood and adolescence. Jurisdiction over issues relating to children, youth and families is shared by at least thirteen of the twenty-two House standing committees and numerous subcommittees. The following compilation highlights issues affecting this population which are considered by the various House standing committees:

Agriculture—food stamps, nutrition, consumer programs.

Armed Services—medical care and human relations for military personnel and their families, Selective Service.

Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs—housing, regulation of the housing industry (including landlord-tenant relations); community development and planning.

District of Columbia—all matters pertaining to children, youth and families residing in the District of Columbia.

Education and Labor—elementary, secondary and vocational education, child nutrition; youth employment and training; child labor; equal employment opportunities; youth camp safety; juvenile justice, runaway youth; early childhood services; education of the handicapped; child abuse; child adoption; alcohol and drug abuse education; volunteer programs.

Energy and Commerce—material and child health; consumer product safety; mental health; alcohol and drug abuse treatment; mental retardation; environmental health.

Foreign Affairs—international education; children of overseas foreign service officers and military; refugee children.

Interior and Insular Affairs—national parks and outdoor recreation; all matters pertaining to Indian children; all matters pertaining to children residing in American territories.

Judiciary—immigration, refugees, juvenile courts, civil rights, crime.

Post Office and Civil Service—health benefits for Federal employees; alternative work schedules; census.

Public Works and Transportation—surface transportation; urban and mass transportation.

Science and Technology—environmental health, safety; biomedical and pharmaceutical activities of Executive departments and agencies; science education; R&D involving governmental health, biomedical, nutritional and handicapped programs.

Ways and Means—disability insurance; health care and delivery systems, including Medicaid; public assistance, including welfare reform, supplemental security income, aid to families with dependent children, social services, child support, foster care, eligibility of welfare recipients for food stamps; unemployment compensation; tax credits for child care and jobs for targeted youth; tax exemptions for charitable organizations.

The Committee on Appropriations, Budget and Government Operations have jurisdictions which are generally applicable to the issues and programs affecting children, youth and families.

Under the current committee system the House lacks the capacity to conduct comprehensive oversight affecting our nation's children, youth and families. One of the primary functions of the Select Committee is to coordinate efforts to address these issues. Congress needs a tool to aid its careful review of current programs and policies affecting children, and to coordinate the development of the necessary strategies for assuring that children have the opportunities to become productive citizens. In these efforts, Congress also needs to draw upon the diverse experiences of state and local governments, voluntary and private agencies which have been providing services to children and families for many years.

Many such organizations have endorsed the reestablishment of the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families. These endorsing groups represent professionals an constituencies involved in law enforcement, health, medicine, education, child welfare, family planning, civil rights, disabled Americans, parent and child advocacy, religious groups, nutrition and state and local governments. The following is a partial list of those organizations which

have endorsed the reauthorization of the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families in the 99th Congress:

Action for Child Protection;
Alabama Council on Human Relations, Inc.;
American Academy of Child Psychiatry;
American Academy of Pediatrics;
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy;
American Baptist Churches, USA;
American Bar Association;
American Camping Association;
American Federation of Teachers;
American Foundation for the Blind, Inc.;
American Home Economics Association;
American Psychological Association;
American Public Health Association;
American Red Cross;
The American Sociological Association;
American Youth Work Center (formerly National Youth Work Alliance);
Association for Children of New Jersey;
The Association of Junior Leagues, Inc.;
Association for Retarded Citizens of the United States;
Association for the Advancement of Psychology;
Bread for the World;
Boy Scouts of America;
Boys Clubs of America;
Camp Fire, Inc.;
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities;
Center for the Development of Non-Formal Education;
The Center for Early Adolescence;
Center for Public Advocacy Research;
The Center for the Study of Social Policy;
Child and Family Services (Knoxville, TN);
Child Care Action Campaign;
Child Development Programs Advisory Committee, State of California;
Child Welfare League;
Children's Defense Fund;
The Children's Foundation;
Children's Hospital, National Medical Center;
Church of the Bretheren;
Comprehensive Community Child Care;
Covenant House Under 21 (New York, NY);
Day Care Council of New York, Inc.;
District of Columbia Action for Foster Children, Inc.;
The Edna A. Hill Child Development Laboratory Preschools, Department of Human Development and Family Life, University of Kansas;
The Family Resource Coalition;
Family Service America;
Florence Crittenton Services;
Food Research and Action Center;
Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children;
Future Homemakers of America, Inc.;

Greater Kansas City, Missouri Affiliate, National Black Child Development Institute;
Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association;
Health Security Action Council;
Homes for Children;
Institute for The Community As Extended Family;
International Association of Pupil Personnel Workers, Inc.;
Iowa's Children's and Family Services;
Jewish Child Care Association of New York;
Jewish Children's Regional Service of Jewish Children's Home;
Los Angeles Roundtable for Children;
Lutheran Council in the USA;
March of Dimes;
Minnesota Association of Voluntary Social Service Agencies;
The National Assembly of National Voluntary Health and Social Welfare Organizations, Inc.;
National Association for Child Care Management;
National Association for the Education of Young Children;
National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions;
National Association of Elementary School Principals;
National Association of Social Workers, Inc.;
National Black Child Development Institute, Inc.;
National Board, YWCA of the USA;
National Child Abuse Coalition;
National Center for Clinical Infant Programs;
The National Collaboration for Youth;
National Committee for Citizens in Education;
National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse;
National Conference of Catholic Charities;
The National Consortium for Child Mental Health Services;
National Council of Jewish Women;
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges;
National Education Association;
National Crime Prevention Council;
The National Exchange Club Foundation for the Prevention of Child Abuse;
The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. of the United States of America;
National Head Start Association;
National Jack & Jill of America, Detroit Chapter;
National Nutritional Foods Association;
The National PTA;
The National Society for Children and Adults with Autism;
National Women's Political Caucus;
The Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, Inc.;
Ohio Perinatal Association;
Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy;
The Parent Connection, Inc.;
Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic;
Pioneer Women/Na'amat;
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);
St. Mary's County Government;

Society for Nutrition Education (Oakland, California);
Society for Research in Child Development;
South Carolina Perinatal Association;
State of Wisconsin, Department of Health and Social Services;
Statewide Genetics Services Network Project, University of Wisconsin—Madison;
United Church Board for Homeland Ministries;
The United Methodist Children's Home;
The United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society;
United Methodist Women's Division;
WAIF, Inc.;
Wider Opportunities for Women, Inc.;
Winooski Youth Development Commission.

SUMMARY AND PROVISIONS

House Resolution 25, as introduced by Representative George Miller on January 3, 1985, is identical to House Resolution 16 adopted by the House on February 2, 1983 and House Resolution 421 adopted by the House on September 29, 1982. The resolution conforms to the language of the model resolution appearing in "Guidelines for the Establishment of Select Committees," a subcommittee print approved by the Committee on Rules. The resolution proposes a Select Committee to be composed of no more than thirty Members of the House to be appointed by the Speaker, one of whom the Speaker shall designate as chairman.

To assure that the Select Committee will operate under the same provisions relating to committee operations which apply to all standing committees under clauses 1, 2, and 3 of House Rule XI, the Select Committee is made subject to the provisions of those clauses of Rule XI. Clauses 1, 2, and 3 of House Rule XI relate to procedures for committees, adoption of written rules, committee meetings, committee records, quorum requirements, travel limitations and broadcasting of committee hearings. By making these clauses applicable to the Select Committee it is not necessary to delineate quorum requirements and subpoena power which would be granted under clause 2(m) of Rule XI. The Select Committee would not be exempt from sitting when the House is considering legislation for amendment under the five minute rule. The Select Committee would be permitted to sit and act in the United States and its territories, to hold hearings as it deemed necessary, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned.

The resolution authorizes the Select Committee to incur expenses in connection with its duties, subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by clause 5 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. No funds for the activities of the Select Committee would be available except by House approval of a funding resolution reported by the Committee on House Administration. The resolution authorizes the Select Committee to appoint staff, consultants, and to utilize the services of staff of those committees of the House from which Members have been selected for membership.

The Select Committee is directed to report to the House as soon as practicable during the present Congress, the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable. Any such report made when the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the House. Any report shall be referred to the committee or committees having jurisdiction over the subject matter thereof. Upon termination of the Select Committee the records, files and materials of the panel shall be transferred to the Clerk of the House.

A section-by-section analysis of the provisions of House Resolution 16 follow:

Preamble

The preamble of the resolution sets forth the congressional findings and justifications for establishing the select committee. The preamble cites the congressional finding that—

Strong family relationships are crucial to the health and optimal development of children;

There are approximately sixty-four million children in the United States, and the number of children under age ten may increase by 20 per centum in the next decade;

That decisions of the Federal Government involving education, employment, health and nutrition, law enforcement, or economic policy have a substantial effect upon the well-being of American children and their families; and

A combination of governmental and private sector efforts are necessary to provide services and support for families and children.

Section 1. Establishment

Establishes the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families.

Section 2. Functions

Subsection (a) sets forth the functions of the select committee. The select committee would have no legislative jurisdiction but would have the authority—

To conduct a continuing comprehensive study and review of problems of children, youth, and families, including but not limited to income maintenance, health (including medical and child development research), nutrition, education, welfare, employment, and recreation;

To study the use of practicable means and methods of encouraging the development of public and private programs and policies which will assist American children and youth in taking a full part in national life and becoming productive citizens; and

To develop policies that would encourage the coordination of both governmental and private programs designed to address the problems of childhood and adolescence.

Subsection (b) provides that the resolution shall not be construed to limit the legislative and oversight jurisdiction of any standing committees; this is clarifying language which emphasizes the primary responsibility of the standing committees of the House over the subject area to be addressed by the select committee.

Section 3. Appointment and membership

Subsection (a) provides that the select committee would be composed of no more than thirty Members of the House. The select committee would be appointed by the Speaker, as provided by clause 6(f) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives. This subsection also provides that the Speaker shall designate one of the members as chairman.

Subsection (b) provides that for the purposes of appointing members to the select committee, the term "Members" shall include any representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

Section 4. Authority and procedures

Subsection (a) provides the customary authority to the select committee to sit, act, and hold hearings. The authority would be granted without regard to whether the House is in session, has adjourned, or has recessed, and without geographic limitation. This language is similar to that which applies to standing committees under clause 2(m)(1)(A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Subsection (b) provides that all provisions of clauses 1, 2, and 3 of rule XI of the Rules of the House shall be applicable to the select committee. These provisions relate to rules of procedures for committees, adoption of written rules, committee meetings, committee records, quorum requirements, travel limitations and broadcasting of committee hearings. Clause 2(m) of rule XI grants subpoena power to House committees and would be applicable to the select committee. By making clauses 1, 2, and 3 applicable to the select committee it is not necessary to delineate quorum requirements and subpoena power which would be granted under clause 2(m) of rule XI.

Subsection (c) makes it clear that nothing contained in subsection (a) shall be construed to limit the applicability of clasue 2(i) of rule XI of the Rules of the House to the select committee. The select committee would be prohibited from sitting while the House is considering a measure for amendment under the five-minute rule. As is the practice with other standing committees of the House, the select committee may ask for permission by the House to sit during the five-mimute rule on a case-by-case as necessary.

Section 5. Administrative provisions

Subsection (a) provides authority to the select committee to incur necessary expenses in connection with its duties under this resolution, subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by clasue 5 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. No funds for the activities of the select committee would be available except by a separate vote on a funding resolution reported by the Committee on House Administration.

Subsection (b) authorizes the select committee to appoint, either on a permanent basis or as experts or consultants, such staff as the select committee considers necessary. The select committee would be authorized to utilize the services of the staffs of those committees of the House from which Members have been selected for

membership on the select committee. This provision allows the select committee to hire and terminate staff, prescribe their duties and set the rate of compensation not to exceed the highest rate of basic pay of Level V of the Executive Schedule in section 5316 of title 5, United States Code (currently limited to $68,700.08 per year). It would also allow the Members and staff to be reimbursed for travel expenses outside of the District of Columbia.

Section 6. Reports and records

This section directs the select committee to report to the House as soon as practicable during the present Congress, the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable. The resolution stipulates that any report which is made when the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the House and any report shall be referred to the committee or committees having jurisdiction over the subject matter thereof. Upon completion of its work, the records, files and materials of the select committee shall be transferred to the Clerk of the House.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On February 26, 1985, the Committee on Rules, which has original jurisdiction over establishment of Select Committees, held a hearing on House Resolution 25. Testimony in support of the resolution was heard from Representatives George Miller of California, Lindy Boggs of Louisiana, Dan Coats of Indiana and Hamilton Fish, Jr. of New York. The committee was presented with a list of 229 cosponsors of House Resolution 25. On February 26, 1985, the Committee on Rules ordered House Resolution 25 reported without amendment by voice vote, a quorum being present.

STATEMENT UNDER CLAUSE 2(l)(3) OF RULE XI OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A. Oversight Statement

The Committee made no special oversight findings on this resolution.

B. Budget statement

No budget statement is submitted.

C. Estimate of the Congressional Budget Office

No estimate or comparison was received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office as referred to in subdivision (C) of clause 2(l)(3) of the House rule XI.

D. Oversight findings or recommendations of the Committee on Government Operations

No findings or recommendations of the Committee on Government Operations were received as referred to in subdivision (a) of clause 2(l)(3) of House rule XI.

SUPPLEMENTAL VIEWS OF THE HONORABLE TRENT LOTT OR MISSISSIPPI ON H. RES. 25, CREATING A SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES IN THE 99TH CONGRESS

The Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families has compiled an impressive record of investigations into a variety of topics during the 98th Congress—its first term of operational existence (although it was originally authorized late in the 97th Congress, it was never appointed or funded). The topics of these hearings ranged from child abuse and child care to working families and unemployed families. The select committee can rightfully claim, as it does in its final report for the 98th Congress, that although it has been in existence for only two years, it has already begun to fulfill its principal mandate: "to enhance significantly the capacity of Congress to conduct comprehensive oversight on issues affecting children, youth, and families." As such, I think the select committee should be continued for one more Congress.

When the present chairman of the select committee, Congressman Miller of California, originally introduced H. Res. 421 in the 97th Congress, to create a Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, the resolution itself contained a refreshing nuance as these things go: it contained its own sunset date. To quote from that resolution: "The select committee shall cease to exist at the close of the Nineth-ninth Congress."

In his introductory statement on the resolution, on March 31, 1982, Congressman Miller emphasized this self-termination feature: "The select committee which we propose will be limited to two Congresses." And, when he appeared before the Rules Committee, he was asked by Congressman Long of Louisiana "what you foresee in the way of a time limit on this study." Congressman Miller again stated his intention as follows: "I would be less than candid with you if I told you I thought you could do this in one Congress. I think it is going to take two Congresses. That is a determination."

Congressman Miller went on to testify:

> This committee will either earn the right to continue its work in the second Congress or it won't, and we have seen in the past where in some cases the Congress . . . has determined that some committee simply did not live up to their future billing. But I think we will. (Rules Committee Hearing, H. Res. 421, Sept. 16, 1982)

I was encouraged and heartened by this self-imposed deadline for completing the work of a select committee. Too often such select committees have a way of dragging-on from Congress-to-Congress, justifying their continued existence on grounds that the problem they were assigned to address has not yet been solved.

However, I began to have feelings of deja vu when I read the response of Chairman Miller to the Rules Committee select committee questionnaire for the 99th Congress. When asked whether the subject can be adequately studied in one Congress, Mr. Miller replied: "No. The Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families has made a responsible beginning in complying with its mandate. And it is my hope that we can responsibly complete our intensive look at the complex issues affecting children, youth, and families in another two to four years."

In his appearance before the Rules Committee on Tuesday, February 26th, Chairman Miller, in response to a question, again put forward this revised estimate of the time needed to complete the work of the select committee, saying it may not finish its investigation until the end of the next Congress.

It is my hope that Chairman Miller and his select committee will adhere to their original sunset deadline for the end of this Congress, and that they will make every effort to that end.

I hope there is nothing in the name of the select committee that is causing it to succumb to the siren song of the fountain of eternal youth (and everlasting life) that has beckoned so many other select committees in the past. Select committees seem to follow the path of most incipient bureaucracies: they first take on a life of their own, and then spend the rest of their time trying to protect, justify and expand their jurisdiction and continued existence.

All this is not to take away from the good and honorable intentions which have given rise to such select committees and which originally drive their membership. The trend of self-perpetuating select committees almost seems to operate independent of human control, like some inexorable law of nature.

For that reason, a Rules Committee subcommittee, in 1977, under the chairmanship of our late colleague, Gillis Long, issued a document entitled "Guidelines for the Establishment of Select Committees," listing some six criteria to be met before a select committee should be authorized. One of these guidelines was that, "a definite length of time for the proposed select committee to exist must be specified." Unfortunately, these specified time limits have become floating targets that seem to move farther out to sea in every Congress a select committee comes around for reauthorization.

To the extent that our select committees do stray from the six guidelines laid down by the Long subcommittee in the 95th Congress, the House should reconsider whether it wants to authorize any select committees. For without adherence to these sound and reasonable guidelines, we will again find ourselves in the situation the House then found itself in—almost a mania for creating a new select committee at the drop of a problem. This sense of frustration is reflected in the first sentence of the Long Subcommittee print:

> The Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House recognizes that special circumstances sometimes justify the creation of select committees. In general, however, the proliferation of such committees adds to spiralling congressional cost, exacerbates already serious space problems, imposes additional committee burdens on Mem-

bers, and may interfere with the effectiveness of the standing committee system.

I hope this select committee, and others, will take more seriously their original "sunset" deadlines for existence, and manage their workloads and set their final reporting dates accordingly. Until and unless we begin to hold our select committees to a "sunset" requirement, I fear they will continue to spawn and proliferate in the perpetual sunshine which they have come to enjoy.

At this point I include the first section from the Gillis Long report from the 95th Congress to which I have alluded:

GUIDELINES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEES [1]

The Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House recognizes that special circumstances sometimes justify the creation of select committees. In general, however, the proliferation of such committees adds to spiralling congressional costs, exacerbates already serious space problems, imposes additional committee burdens on Members, and may interfere with the effectiveness of the standing committee system.

For these reasons the subcommittee hereafter will apply the following criteria in considering proposals to create new select committees. The subcommittee expects to consider resolutions creating select committees and favorably report them to the full Committee on Rules only when such resolutions clearly reflect the intent and purpose of the following guidelines.

1. The proposed select committee must deal with a significant and major issue

Select committees should be created to focus on significant issues. The need for immediate and timely study of the issue should be the subject of general consensus. The proponents of the select committee should present to the Rules Committee substantial and well-documented evidence of the pressing need for establishing a select committee.

Among the items the Subcommittee will include in its evaluation of the need for a proposed select committee are: The number of cosponsors of a resolution to create a select committee; statements from party leaders and groups; recommendations from the President, Senate leaders, and other officials; petitions from outside organizations; press and media coverage of the issue.

There are certain commemorative or ceremonial occasions which may justify the creation of a select committee, permitting formal participation by the House as an institution in certain events. The Subcommittee acknowledges this special need and will give it due consideration in reviewing proposals to create select committees.

2. The present committee system does not address the issue effectively

Existing standing committees may fail to take up a significant issue for a number of reasons. A standing committee may have a heavily committed calendar of business, or lack the staff resources

[1] From "Guidelines for the Establishment of Select Committees," Report of the Subcommittee on the Rules and Organization of the House, Committee on Rules, 95th Congress.

for additional inquiries, or lack sufficient interest to focus on the topic.

Jurisdiction over the subject matter may be so fragmented or overlapping that no single committee has a clearly established leading jurisdictional authority. In such cases, creation of a select committee may reduce controversy as to jurisdiction among competing committees.

Furthermore, a select committee may permit a broad perspective not available through any one standing committee with a portion of jurisdiction. The development of a comprehensive and coordinated approach to the issue may only be possible through a select committee. In such cases, a select committee may facilitate the development of a legislative package and help to insure House action on priority issues within a reasonable and specified time frame.

Circumstances from time to time may require a "blue-ribbon" panel to investigate a matter of great public concern. Certain issues may demand a careful and balanced representation of regional or other interests.

The subcommittee will include such factors in its evaluation of select committee proposals. It will also solicit the views of the standing committees with jurisdiction over the issue and will be disinclined to recommend creation of a select committee over significant opposition by a standing committee with jurisdiction.

3. The subject matter and the objectives of the proposed select committee must be clearly defined

The proponents of a select committee must clearly outline the proposed area of subject matter and the objectives of the select committee. They must also clearly define the boundaries of the proposed study. The subcommittee considers a narrowly defined proposal a more desirable and appropriate basis for the creation of a select committee.

4. Method of inquiry and expected products of the proposed select committee must be clearly stated

The subcommittee expects the sponsors of a resolution to create a select committee to outline the proposed method of inquiry into the subject matter. The subcommittee also expects the sponsors to state the form the select committee's findings will take and what reports, draft legislation, and other documents are to be produced. The Subcommittee believes that only in rare circumstances should a select committee have legislative authority.

The proponents of a select committee must state when they expect to submit their report and to whom they propose to report. The Subcommittee believes that, in general, a select committee should report not only to the House but also to the standing committees with jurisdiction over the area of inquiry.

If possible, the advocates of a select committee should inform the Rules Committee how the select committee's recommendations should be implemented—for example, public law, informal administrative action, executive reorganization, or revision of Federal regulations.

A discussion of these aspects of a select committee's projected activity will help determine whether or not establishment of the

select committee will serve the lawmaking, oversight and investigatory responsibilities of the House.

5. A definite length of time for the proposed select committee to exist must be specified

The subcommittee believes that select committees should be created for limited periods of time. Select committees seeking reauthorization must be prepared to justify the extension of their authority, outline their planned future activities, explain why standing committees cannot handle the work, and state their additional time and budgetary requirements.

6. Cost factors involved in the creation of a select committee must be outlined

The proponents of a select committee must present to the Rules Committee a proposed outline of costs to be incurred and staffing requirements. The subcommittee believes that costs should be held to an absolute minimum by select committees. Expenditures may be held down by utilizing the staff resources of the legislative support agencies, the services of other Capitol Hill staff, and employees "borrowed" from appropriate Federal agencies when suitable and available.

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